

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 4 are currently amended. Accordingly, claim 1-4 will remain pending after entry of this Amendment and Response.

Support for the amendments herein can be found throughout the application as filed. In particular, support for the amendments to claims 1 and 4 can be found at least, for example, in paragraphs [0006] and [0009] of the application as published and original claims 1 and 4. No new matter is added.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,212,368 to Hara (hereinafter "Hara").

Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-4 are not anticipated by Hara because Hara does not disclose changing a content of attack control information when specific conditions correlated to character identification information and attack content identification information are satisfied as recited in independent claim 1.

The Office Action alleges that this feature of the invention is disclosed at column 6, line 7-14 of Hara, which state, in part, "The calculation unit changes the game parameter data for either player in accordance with the condition amount included within the game parameter data of the condition card."

This passage, as well as the rest of Hara, is silent regarding both a change of the condition amount itself and the satisfaction of specific conditions corresponding to character identification information and attack content identification information.

The Office Action alleges that "Hara does in fact disclose that a predetermined condition must be satisfied." Specifically, the Office Action alleges that "Hara discloses that the calculation unit must determine which player will proceed to play" and that this determination constitutes a "condition." This interpretation of "condition" is unreasonably expansive and would have the term "condition" encompass any internal activity that must be performed when the system is operated (e.g., powering on system). Rather, the

conditions as recited by Applicants (in accordance with the generally understood meaning of "condition") can be met or not met without impairing the operation of the system.

Moreover, the proffered "condition" is not correlated to character identification information and attack content identification information as recited by Applicants.

Thus, when reasonably construed, Hara does not disclose changing a content of attack control information when specific conditions correlated to character identification information and attack content identification information are satisfied as recited by Applicants in claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Hara and the allowance of these claims.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' representatives would be helpful to resolve any further issues and/or expedite further prosecution of the application, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Fee Authorization

Applicants believe that no fees are due for the submission of this Response. If additional fees are required, the Director is authorized to charge any fees associated with this submission to our Deposit Account, No. 04-1105, Reference 86293(308246). Any overpayment should be credited to said Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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